

The list of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of facilitating vascular growth in cardiac muscle of a human subject in need of such treatment, comprising:

inhibiting EMAP II activity in said human subject by an amount effective to stimulate vascular growth in said cardiac muscle.

2. (Currently Amended) The **[[A]]** method according to claim 1, wherein said inhibiting step is carried out by administering a compound that specifically binds to EMAP II to said subject in an amount effective to stimulate vascular growth in said cardiac muscle.

3. (Currently Amended) The **[[A]]** method according to claim 2, wherein said compound is an antibody that specifically binds to EMAP II.

4. (Currently Amended) The **[[A]]** method according to claim 1, wherein said inhibiting step is carried out by downregulating EMAP II expression in said subject by an amount effective to stimulate vascular growth in said cardiac muscle.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The **[[A]]** method according to claim 1, wherein said inhibiting step is carried out by administering an EMAP II receptor antagonist to said subject in an amount effective to stimulate vascular growth in said cardiac muscle.

7. (Currently Amended) The **[[A]]** method according to claim 1, wherein said subject is afflicted with myocardial ischemia.

8. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to claim 1, wherein said subject is afflicted with atherosclerosis.

9. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to claim 1, wherein said subject is afflicted with a myocardial disease.

10. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to claim 9, wherein said myocardial disease is cardiomyopathy or cardiac hypertrophy.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of facilitating vascular growth in cardiac muscle tissue of a human subject in need of such treatment, said method comprising:

administering to said human subject an active agent that inhibits EMAP II activity in said subject by an amount effective to promote blood vessel formation in said cardiac muscle.

12. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to claim 11, wherein said active agent is a compound that specifically binds to EMAP II.

13. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to claim 12, wherein said compound is an antibody that specifically binds to EMAP II.

14. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to claim 11, wherein said active agent is a compound that downregulates EMAP II expression.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] method according to claim 11, wherein said active agent is an EMAP II receptor antagonist.

17. (Currently Amended) The **[[A]]** method according to claim 11, wherein said subject is afflicted with myocardial ischemia.

18. (Currently Amended) The **[[A]]** method according to claim 11, wherein said subject is afflicted with atherosclerosis.

19. (Currently Amended) The **[[A]]** method according to claim 11, wherein said subject is afflicted with a myocardial disease.